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THE COLLEGE VOICE

A College Tradition Since 1976

Volume XIX • Number 20

Connecticut College, New London, CT

Tuesday, April 2, 1996



Comet Hyakutake pays visit to northern sky-p.3

ALSO: Happy April fools day!! - p. 10.

Chris Cory Resigns:

Cory takes post on Long Island

by Ashley Stevens
THE COLLEGE VOICE
with reporting by Jenny Barron
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Members of the college community and colleagues from the Office of College Relations gathered on Friday to say goodbye to Chris Cory, resigning Director of the office. Cory has been named University Director of Public Relations for Long Island University, where his appointment begins April 8.

Cory says that his decision to leave Conn is strictly personal and in no way reflects on the experience he has had at the school.

"I was really happy here and this college makes my job really easy," commented Cory. "It's been wonderful working with everyone." He added that he has enjoyed working with students through the committees related to his office.

"Everyone of those contacts [with students] have convinced me that Conn College students know how to get things done with flair," said Cory.

Cory has been Director of College Relations here at Conn for the past five years, during which time his efforts helped strengthen the college's reputation and saw it rise from 41 to 25 in *U.S. News and World Report* magazine's annual ranking of national liberal arts colleges.

Long Island University, one of the country's ten largest private universities, consists of three campuses, all in New York. Cory, also a former Managing Editor of *Psychology Today* and an editor and Boston bureau chief for *Time* magazine, is excited about his new job.

"Long Island University is making an increasing contribution to the future of this region and this country. It will be an honor to help," said Cory, adding that it would be quite a change of scenery. He will work with the University President, as well as key administrators and trustees, on "university-wide communications, serve as

Lucas Held to replace Cory

By Yung Kim
THE COLLEGE VOICE

Some people go through college with a specific course of study. They major in economics or biology with specific goals in mind. Lucas Held went through college and the first part of his life after college learning about himself.

Held just stepped up to the position of Acting Director of College Relations following Chris Cory's departure. He spends his time getting some credit for the school, and for the people he thinks deserve it. He goes about his job with a quiet love. He doesn't rant and rave, and doesn't type too many exclamation points. Held's career is one of modesty. He shines the spotlight on others.

Held graduated from Haverford College in 1979 with a major in English. His experience at a small liberal arts college laid the foundation for a future career he wasn't expecting. "When I was in college I was either in the library studying, or playing my trumpet," recalled Held.

While in college, Held began training for a career in journalism. By the time he was a sophomore he had finished an internship at a newspaper and figured that it was his future career. "I

went to college planning on majoring in the sciences, and considered a career in psychiatry. My freshman year I worked for the school paper in the features department. I liked it," said Held.

After graduating from Haverford he went to work in the public relations department of Tufts University, but intended to return to journalism. He got a job at the Middletown press and after years of doing just about everything for almost every section, he became the associate editor and ran the news room of the daily paper. But change is as predictable as the sun setting. He got married in May 1994, and decided it was time to make a change. "My wife got sick of me coming home at 2:30 in the morning from work. But I wanted a more academic setting. I enjoy the stimulus of ideas and research. A five-alarm fire is interesting, but it doesn't hold my interest as much as learning about Latin America or medieval studies," said Held.

What Lucas Held was looking for was a place where he could learn more. With a full course load and a variety of future career options we can very easily forget why it is that we are here at a liberal arts college. To Held the answer is clear, and very rewarding. "I believe in the mission of a liberal arts college. You



Sharyn Miskovitz/The College Voice

The College community bids farewell to Chris Cory, pictured here on the right, as Lucas Held (on left) takes over as director of College Relations.

don't always go in knowing what you are going to do when you get out. If you move in lock step with everything, you're liable to miss a step somewhere. You don't know your path and it's easy to get lost. It would help if you had a map. I think learning how to think is a valuable asset for anybody," said Held.

Held has found that Connecticut College does, in fact, live up to its billing. He works daily with students and other administrators so he knows of what he speaks. "[Conn College is a] re-

markable place. I am very impressed by the students taking responsibility on the campus, for helping to design the calendar to creating their own web pages. The faculty is thoughtful and I am impressed with their articulation of a set of goals for the campus," said Held.

According to Held's grandfather, he has made the right choice for himself. "My grandfather told me the most important thing about a job is that you keep learn-

See Held, p. 5

Dining services removes Harris smoking section

by Rebecca Libert
NEWS EDITOR

Connecticut College smokers were surprised and displeased this Friday night when they entered the area of Harris formerly known as the smoking section. The partition was gone, and with it the smokers' ability to light up those after-dinner cigarettes. There were notices posted on the doors and on each table informing Harris patrons that "there will be no smoking in this section of Harris."

The notice was followed by a letter from Matt Fay, director of dining services, explaining that during Thursday evening's dinner food had been thrown

around the smoking section of Harris. Gravy was discovered on the piano and there were mashed potatoes on the walls and all over the floor. This was not the first incident of excess mess being found in the smoking area; in fact, a note had been posted before spring break asking patrons of the smoking section to treat the area with more care.

Fay feels that the seclusion of the enclosed section has led "somebody or somebodies to take advantage of the lack of observation by others and misbehave." Until the individuals responsible for the mess turn themselves in according to the college Honor Code, the screen

separating the smoking section will remain open.

Not surprisingly, smokers are angry with the removal of their section, but some supervisors have indicated that they feel the section will be reopened shortly.

"It's apparent who is making the mess, they'll either turn themselves in or be caught soon," remarked one smoker. One Harris worker remarked that if this hadn't happened over a weekend, action (like an investigation) would have been taken sooner. Whatever the case, smoking students will all breathe easier when their partition and their smoking rights are returned.

NEWS

Ammirati officially named Dean of Freshmen

By Kimberly Whittemore
THE COLLEGE VOICE

Last Monday, the administration announced that Theresa Ammirati will become the permanent Dean of Freshmen. Ammirati has been acting in that position following the departure of Louise Brown. The campus community was sent letters notifying them of the new appointment. Before her current position, Ammirati served as Director of the Writing Center and as an advocate for students with disabilities and international students.

As coordinator for the learning disabled and international students, Ammirati had the challenging task of reaching out to students on a personal and individual level. She is patient and knowledgeable regarding students with learning disabilities and has long remained an educator to faculty concerning the needs of these students.

"Dean Ammirati is special because she cares about the well being of the whole person. . . . She is on your side and will work with you until whatever needs to be resolved is," remarked one student with a learning disability. This sort of

commitment to understanding, defending, and appreciating the learning disabled and international students enables Ammirati to empathize with students who have special needs and do so with flair.

The college's deans share equal enthusiasm with regard to Ammirati's appointment. "I think she will do a great job. She has done a great job. I am very pleased to have her on board," said Philip Ray, associate dean of the college. Arthur Ferrari, dean of the college, echoed Ray's praise for Ammirati saying, "I cannot think of anyone better suited to advancing the goals of the Dean of the College's office: she is a humane supporter of students who puts strong emphasis on their intellectual success."

"Dean Ammirati combines a high commitment to academic excellence and a strong commitment to student development. She is accustomed to working sensitively with individual students to help them achieve their personal best while still focusing on the kind of high achievement that our faculty expect. She is a great asset to all of us as Dean of Freshmen. I am delighted she has accepted," stated Claire Gaudiani, president of the college.

Ancient visitor lights up sky

By Jenny Barron
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Making its first appearance in about 9,000 years, comet Hyakutake had astronomers and amateurs alike looking skyward last week. The cluster of rock and ice is the fifth-closest comet to Earth within this century, and one of the most visible in the northern hemisphere. It is reportedly the brightest comet in 20 years.

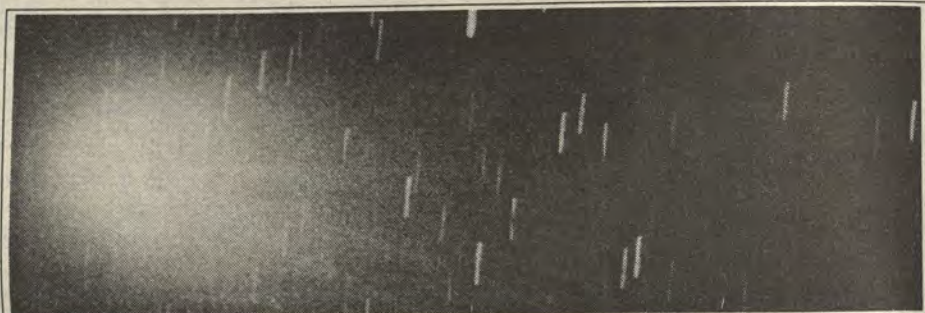
But if you missed Hyakutake last week, you haven't missed your chance to catch a glimpse of the ancient visitor. Another celestial event may give you an even better opportunity to view the comet. Early in the evening of April 3, a lunar eclipse will be visible from the Eastern US. This will provide an opportunity to observe Hyakutake in a darker sky.

Some hints to remember when viewing the comet: don't get upset if you don't see it very clearly right off—your eyes will probably take at least 20 to 30 minutes to adjust to the dark. In addition, try putting a paper bag over your flashlight, this will help your vision.

The coma, or head of the comet, is composed of the dust and gas that surrounds the comet's nucleus. It will typically look round or, if the tail is bright, parabolic in shape. The coma will usually appear fuzzy (like in March), but can be well-defined with sharp boundaries when the comet is close to the sun (in mid to late April). Often there is a bright central "star" to the coma, but the actual nucleus cannot be seen directly.

When the comet comes close to the Sun, the dust and gas is pushed away from the comet's head. This extension from the coma is referred to as the tail. Tails typically point away from the Sun. They can be straight, curved, or fan-shaped. A comet can have more than one tail which can be quite bright or rather faint.

Comet Hyakutake was discovered by amateur astronomer Yuji Hyakutake in Japan on January 30 using a pair of high power binoculars. The luminous greenish cluster of dots was closest to the earth on March 25 and will remain visible through May.

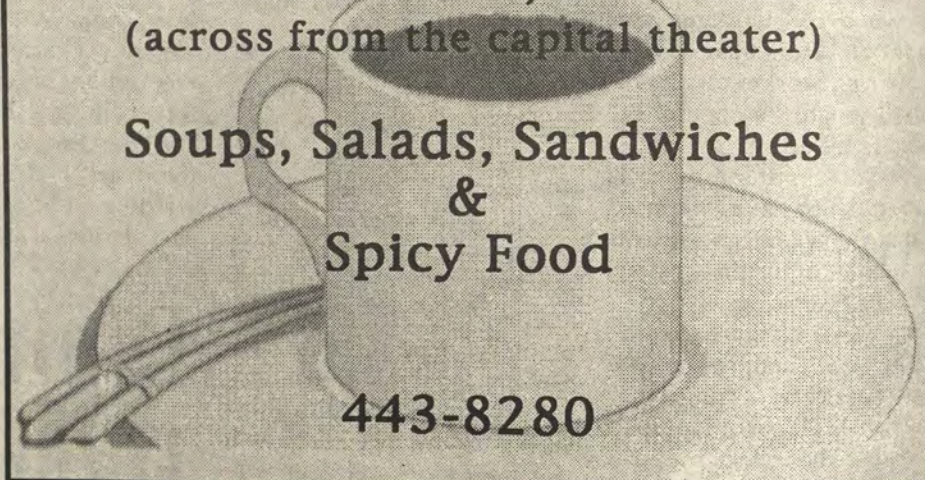


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NEWS

I-Pride week promotes cultural awareness

By Andris Zobs
THE COLLEGE VOICE

—Most people know that Unity House lies somewhere in between Burdick and the road. Few can claim, however, to know exactly what goes on inside and what its numerous clubs represent. In fact, they all have very distinct goals. Therefore, each club is given one week out of the school year to sponsor events that best reflect the goals of their organization.

This past week happened to belong to I-Pride, which has, since Saturday, sponsored four events that stress the importance of cross-cultural connections. I-Pride's mission is to provide a forum for people of different cultures and backgrounds to sit down and discuss the challenges and issues they face. The chair of I-Pride, Janiece Wardlow, says her goal for I-Pride this year is to get the campus to "start recognizing that I-Pride is an organization that will listen to everyone. We've done all we can to allow people to speak heartfelt in a politically correct environment," says Wardlow.

To reflect the cross-cultural perspective of the organization, it opened the week with a West African dance and drum demonstration. During the drumming, the 50 people there were on their feet dancing after little encouragement. To lead the demonstration, I-Pride brought dance instructor Michelle Bach-Coulibaly for the free event.

Wednesday night was the highlight of Intercultural Awareness Week with the theatrical performance of award-winning Broadway actress Vinie Burrows. Burrows, acting alone and without sets, presented 15 women of different ages, races, nationalities and backgrounds. This comment on the trials and triumphs of woman include lives from Ireland, Soweto, Italy and the United States. According to those in attendance in the Crow's Nest for Burrows' performance, it was "powerful."

For Friday night, I-Pride sponsored a dinner catered by restaurants Vanda Broo and Luis Miras. A diverse menu of chicken, plantains and jolof rice was reserved for over 30 people. The final event of the week was a Calypso, Reggae and Merengue dance on Saturday night in the 1941 room. I-Pride, a student run organization consisting of a dedicated executive board and a broad general body of over 80 people, hopes these events will "integrate and diversify student lives" says Wardlow.

I-Pride is only one of seven entirely student organizations based in Unity House. Wardlow stressed the importance that students realize that Unity House is not off-limits and that anyone can visit the house and participate in its different activities. Wardlow pointed out that many people in the overall campus community feel that you must have some sort of membership to go to Unity. In fact Unity is open to absolutely anyone interested. If you are, you can attend I-Pride meetings every other Monday night at 8:00 p.m. at Unity House to say how you feel.

Race and Ethnicity:

Lecture examines past problems and current policy

By Jim Lafayette
THE COLLEGE VOICE

On Thursday, March 28, the sociology department of Connecticut College presented the third lecture in its Race and Ethnicity lecture series. Stephen Steinberg, of the department of sociology and urban studies at CUNY and Queens College, gave a speech entitled "The Problem that Lost its Name: Racism in Postsegregation America." Professor Steinberg discussed his book *Turning Back* and how racism in America has drifted out of political policy and discussion. He feels that the zeal and determination of the Civil Rights movement has waned considerably since the 1960s and that racism is still a prevalent problem, although many believe it is on the decline.

Professor Steinberg stated that the Civil Rights movement forced America to "take off its national blinders," to the problem of racism, but it did not put an end to it. He also cited a conservative black political magazine that contained opinions on racism, most of which said that low socioeconomic status, poor education and other problems within the black community, not racism, are the cause of African-American inequality. Steinberg thinks that racism is part of what originally caused the internal problems of black communities.

An interesting and controversial topic of discussion was affirmative action. Professor Steinberg spoke about the difference between diversity and affirmative action. He said that the aim of diversity is to bring together several different races or groups of people, while the purpose of

affirmative action is to ensure equal representation in areas such as the workplace. Steinberg's concern is that in Washington D.C., affirmative action is being "gutted," and that there is a "savage attack on the Welfare State." He feels that this will only worsen discrimination against African-Americans.

Another more controversial subject was the recent Million Man March led by Louis Farrakhan. Steinberg said, that the event was, "more of a march in Washington rather than a march on Washington." He bases this on the fact that while many blacks were present at the march, their aim was not to directly change any public policy, but to demonstrate dissatisfaction of inequality in general. A student who was present, to whom I spoke afterwards, was displeased with Steinberg's opinion on the march. He thought that the march was a positive event and that conservative black political figures offer some good ideas to African-American communities. This student added that the class differences cited by Steinberg are just as powerful as racial ones.

In Steinberg's very thought-provoking lecture, he expressed his belief that racism isn't going away in the foreseeable future. By bringing together the long-standing problem of racism with current policies on affirmative action and welfare, Steinberg pointed out that these issues will continue to be topics of discussion.

Conn rumor mill is "clueless"

By Jenny Barron
EDITOR IN CHIEF

It looks like the Connecticut College rumor mill is at it again. The campus was abuzz with the idea that movie up-and-comer Alicia Silverstone was in the applicant pool this year.

But Timothy Cheney, assistant director of admissions, says the mill is working overtime. Cheney laughed at the idea that the starlet was considering becoming a camel. And Alisa's own PR department told Voice Radio News that there is no truth to the rumor.

So, it looks like Conn will have to look elsewhere for a bit of Hollywood.

CAMEL HEARDS

"I've just discovered I'm not compatible with anyone on this campus."
—Morgan Hertzan

"I swear to God. I bit that fucking nun's leg as hard as I could."
—overheard in Branford

Camel Heards must be submitted by 5 pm on Friday in order to be included in that week's Voice.



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NEWS

Student Government Review: Looking back at the Issues Project

By Jenny Barron
EDITOR IN CHIEF

The Student Government Assembly passed this year's issues project back in September, setting out the things that they wanted to accomplish this year. With about one fourth of the year remaining, *The College Voice* took a look back at the progress of some of those goals and tasks.

A 24 hour study room was recently established in Larrabee to meet the need created by the elimination of the 24 hour space in the library. According to Dan Shedd, SGA president, they are working on getting more furniture for the area in addition to a hot/cold water pot so that students can make tea and coffee while studying.

With the appointment of Theresa Amirati to permanent Dean of Freshmen, Shedd said that student needs were met. He pointed out that the search committee found that there was a general campus consensus that Amirati was right for the job. Shedd and Stacie French, parliamentarian, both sat on the search committee.

SGA made some progress on the issue of evaluating the old Coffee Grounds space. After holding a campus wide referendum, the assembly recommended that the campus bar remain in its present location. Currently, Shedd says that they are trying to establish a club in the empty space. He explained that the spot could be used for such things as comedians or jazz bands. Shedd added that they would like to establish a committee in charge of coordinating events for the space to help classes and clubs utilize the area.

The Finance Committee, headed by Alex Cote, SGA vice president, is currently evaluating the finance process. Shedd said they hope to present their

recommendations to the general assembly soon. The finance process has come under fire in the past in the debate over when and how clubs should be funded.

Kristin Page, chair of academic affairs, said that she feels progress has been made in the area of the student advisory boards. Page pointed out that the group produced the new ConnCourses handbook this year which contained detailed descriptions of most courses being offered by semester. She said the new handbook for the coming year will be published soon. Page added that she felt the group has been dealing with more issues than have been addressed in years past, saying that she meets with the faculty/student liaison for the Faculty Steering and Conference Committee (FSCC) on a weekly basis.

Shedd admits that the assembly has not addressed all of the issues as they had hoped. For instance, they found that it was not feasible to organize a conference with other NEACAC colleges. They also found it difficult to monitor the college's capital campaign, but Shedd said they have made an effort to understand the thrust of this year's campaign.

One thing that Shedd feels is very important for the assembly to address in the coming weeks is the billing process through the Student Organization Fund Office. He explained that the bills that clubs and classes receive are usually not itemized and are very vague.

"They [the finance office] promised us a standardized price list," said Shedd. "But we haven't seen that yet."

The above issues are sure to come up in the SGA executive board elections to be held next week.

Held

Continued from p. 1

ing," said Held.

Being the associate director of public relations has definitely kept Held on his feet. He has found that writing a press release is different than writing for the press. "I'm not speaking for myself, but on behalf of a sizable, well-represented institution," said Held.

Held may have quit the Middletown press, but he hasn't gotten rid of his addiction to journalism. He just started writing articles on Arts and Music for the Hartford Advocate. "The ink just gets in your veins," said Held.

Held has returned to academics to find out what he knows he does not know. He is here to advertise, but he is really trying to sell an idea. The idea of learning about learning.

"A person that is not conscious of their own ignorance is only more dangerous," said Held. "When we know the limits of our own knowledge we are able to expand."

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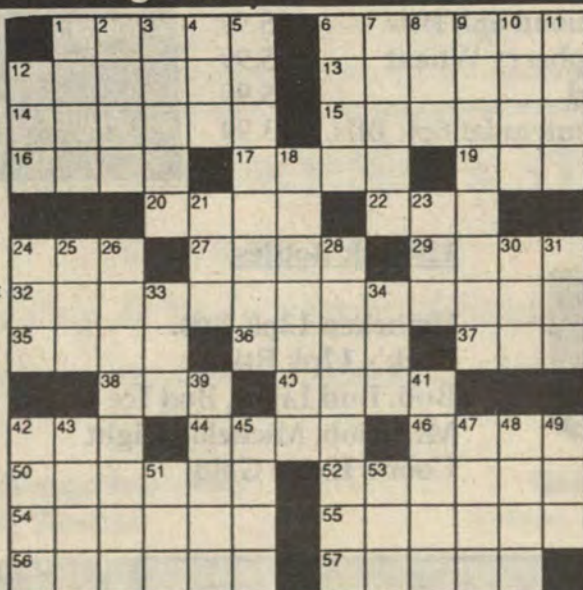
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ACROSS

- 1 Mexican lunch fare
- 6 What this clue needs
- 12 Aplenty
- 13 1990 Redford movie
- 14 Garland
- 15 King Arthur's last stand
- 16 Glazier's sheet
- 17 Shoppe description
- 19 Equi-
- 20 Limp-watch painter
- 22 Hair-cream quantity
- 24 Two, in Tijuana
- 27 Isinglass
- 29 Sweetheart
- 32 Recants
- 35 Lady of the Haus



DOWN

- 1 Norwegian river
- 2 Ladd or Bates
- 3 In cipher
- 4 Mine output
- 5 Pasta base
- 6 Herring-like fish
- 7 Macadamized
- 8 Ms. Gardner
- 9 Bore measures
- 10 Adam's grandson
- 11 "...in
- 12 Space
- 18 Permission
- 21 Latin I verb
- 23 Blood-type group
- 24 Dict. description
- 25 Crew's need
- 26 1977 Lucas movie
- 28 One of the stars of "M*A*S*H"?
- 30 Bother
- 31 Enterprise letters
- 33 Seek
- 34 Take top honors
- 39 Bluenose
- 41 Seedy establishments
- 42 "Brian's Song" star
- 43 Singer Lane
- 45 Second-hand
- 47 Stood
- 48 Fine
- 49 Just out
- 51 Witch's familiar, often
- 53 Born

see answers on page 10



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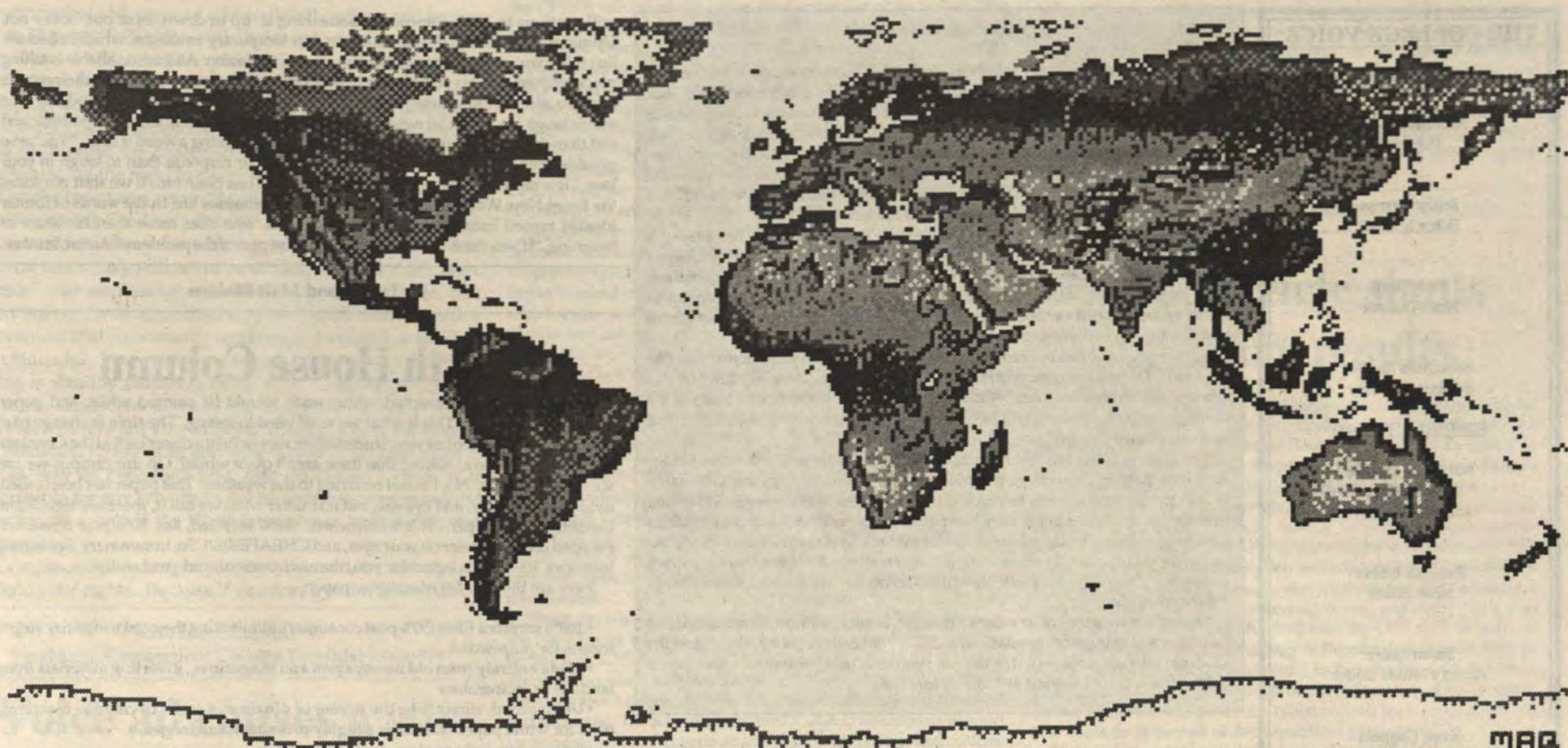
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BEYOND THE HILL



FDA to speed approval of cancer drugs

President Clinton announced measures Friday by the Food and Drug Administration that would expedite the approval process for new, breakthrough cancer fighting drugs.

The new guidelines advise manufacturers on how they can get their drugs sanctioned as quickly as new AIDS drugs. Under these new provisions, a drug need only prove that it causes a tumor to shrink. Previous guidelines required proof that a drug prolongs a cancer patient's survival or quality of life.

Clinton, who lost his mother and stepfather to cancer, said the development and approval process can take years, a difficult time for patients and their families.

The President's announcement will affect at least 100 drugs now being studied. The changes could take at least a year off the time oncology drugs take being tested. It would also cut in half the FDA's review of them—from 12 months to six.

By declaring that the most promising cancer medicines will travel through the FDA faster, the Clinton administration hopes to satisfy complaints from some patients and drug companies that the agency is too slow.

Fire kills 80 in Indonesian shopping center

About 80 people are dead after a fire gutted a shopping center in the West Java town of Bogor, about 40 miles from the capital, Jakarta.

Rescue crews are still searching the rubble for more bodies. About 200 people were in the building when the fire broke out near dawn on Thursday. Authorities say the cause of the fire is still under investigation. Smoke from the fire still poured from the charred remains of the building more than 36 hours after the blaze began.

The fire broke out on the top floor of the three-story building that housed the Ramayana department store. It was the fifth fire to break out in the complex since June 1987.

The fire spread quickly to the two lower floors, where as many as 2,000 shops and stalls were set up. Many of the victims of

the fire are believed to be early workers who arrived to begin stocking shelves.

Authorities estimated the damage at over \$21 million.

European Union turns attention to mad cow disease

Though intending to discuss changes to their founding treaty, the European Union turned its attention Friday to what they termed the continental problem of "mad cow" disease and the panic that has ensued.

The scare was touched off on March 20 when British officials acknowledged a possible connection between bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) and its human equivalent, Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (CJD).

British Prime Minister John Major came to the summit to argue that the crisis had grown into a European problem as consumers across the continent avoid eating beef. Major's Agriculture Secretary stressed the importance of renewing confidence in safe British beef.

The EU is considering a proposal which would involve as much as \$250 million a year in contributions and assume some 700,000 cattle will be slaughtered.

Dozens of countries, as well as the EU, have banned import of beef from Britain. Thailand is the latest to do so, saying that it will ban British milk and dairy products as well as beef.

Meanwhile, the British government announced a \$129 million plan to restore confidence in its beef industry, including stricter monitoring of cattle herds and restrictions on the sale of beef.

Standoff continues at Montana farm

Federal agents may be thinking of Waco this weekend. Even as two members of the Freeman group were ordered held without bail, the standoff continued between other members of the organization and about 100 federal agents.

As many as 20 people are believed to be on the farm, including at least nine members of the Freeman group who are under indictment on a variety of fraud and civil charges. Federal agents have been in contact with the group, but said that there has been no progress.

With no end in sight, residents living

near the farm in the remote Montana town have begun circulating a petition asking the Freeman to avoid violent confrontation with the 100 enforcement agents stationed outside.

Government officials have said that, though they do not believe that the situation will turn violent, Waco and Ruby Ridge are very much on their minds as they try to resolve the conflict in Montana.

The two men who have been taken into custody have been called "dangerous to the community and the community from which you came" by the presiding judge. LeRoy Schweitzer and Donald Peterson Jr. are charged with 55 counts of bank and mail fraud, conspiracy, armed theft, gun violations, and threatening public officials. The two men, whose group does not recognize the authority of the federal government, shouted throughout the proceedings which lasted about 25 minutes.

Schweitzer at one point shouted, "I declare a mistrial." He threatened to go on a hunger strike. Schweitzer has not accepted food since his arrest.

Olympic flame begins its journey to Atlanta

The Olympic flame was lit by the sun's rays in a ceremony reminiscent of ancient Greek ritual this weekend. Actresses dressed as priestesses in white robes stood amid the ruins of ancient Olympia to begin the flame's journey, which will end in Atlanta, Georgia for the start of the 1996 Olympic Games.

The first runner of the torch relay will take the flame around Greece before flying to Los Angeles from Athens on April 26. There, it will begin its long journey across the United States to Atlanta for the July 19 start of the Games.

The first runner left the Temple of Zeus carrying the torch and an olive branch, escorted by a company of children. Two white doves were released before his departure.

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, attending the ceremony with daughter Chelsea, was among the speakers prior to the ceremony.

Shuttle corrects problem, heads home

The crew of the space shuttle Atlantis

touched down on Sunday after experiencing a temporary emergency. On Saturday the cargo bay doors of the shuttle failed to reopen after the landing of the shuttle was delayed.

The 60-foot cargo bay doors, which radiate heat away from the shuttle, had been closed for landing. But when the landing was delayed due to poor weather in Florida, the doors failed to reopen. The doors must be open for the shuttle to produce water and to keep the shuttle cool. There is only a four-hour supply of water available without the doors open.

The problem, which would have forced the shuttle to land at an alternate site in California, was resolved after about an hour.

The five person crew is returning from a successful mission during which they docked with Russian space station Mir, delivered supplies and dropped off US astronaut Shannon Lucid for a five month stay aboard Mir.

Two Atlantis astronauts also conducted a six hour space walk outside the Mir. It was the first time NASA astronauts had worked outside a space station since Skylab in 1974.

Yeltsin calls for an end to Russian role in Chechnya

Russian president Boris Yeltsin has called for an end to major military operations in the breakaway region of Chechnya by Sunday. Yeltsin also announced that Russia will begin a phased withdrawal of its troops stationed in the region.

These statements were released in brief excerpts on Russian television with the full address scheduled to air on Sunday. With Russian presidential elections looming in June, Yeltsin's re-election may depend on his success in resolving the Chechnya situation.

In Sunday's address, Yeltsin said that despite a multi-step withdrawal of Russian forces, some troops would remain in the breakaway region to counter any terrorist attacks by separatist fighters.

Rebel fighters, however, have offered no pledges to halt the fighting, saying they will continue their resistance until Chechnya is granted independence.

OPINIONS/EDITORIALS

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Practicing what we preach

It is said that a democracy is only as strong as those who support it. Connecticut College pays a lot of lip service to its aim to embody democratic ideals. But given the fact that each office in the upcoming SGA executive board elections is uncontested as of Sunday, the words "democratic society" seem to ring hollow.

It is not uncommon to hear students on this campus complaining about one thing or another. Yet, general student involvement in campus issues seems sparse. There is an old adage that if you don't allow your voice to be heard, you lose your right to complain, whatever the outcome.

Now, there are instances in the past where student opinion has played a significant role in decisions on campus. When the senior class was not happy with last year's allocation, they were able to mobilize and fail the entire budget. This year, the long standing student complaint that the Oasis atmosphere is sterile brought about a vote and proposed reorganization of Cro. When students take the time to involve themselves in campus issues, it pays off.

So, are you annoyed by the Gen. Ed. requirements? Do you intensely dislike the food? Do you disagree with the way SGA is run? Is there anything on this campus that drives you nuts? Chances are you said yes to one or more of the above questions. Nothing will be accomplished by grumbling to yourself. But you can change things if you get involved.

The average Conn student is uninformed of the issues and uninvolved in the decisions that face this college community. This is evidenced by low attendance at SGA meetings, the yearly struggle to fill committees with the required number of students, as well as in the very low percentages presented in this year's SGA mid year review. Public opinion is one of the strongest checks a democracy has on its elected officials. By distancing yourself from student governance, you are giving SGA free reign. No matter how qualified any government is, this is always a dangerous idea.

Shared governance is a wonderful concept, faculty, staff, administration, and faculty working together to establish and carry out college policy. But unless the students take advantage of this unique practice it will become no more than a catch phrase to toss around at campus functions.

The Brave New World

It's a Hilarious Ride

Huxley feared that we would be ruined by the things we love. All of our great conveniences and emerging technologies will relinquish our capacity and desire to think and, as a result, we'll become an amused yet confused mass sliding toward our own self-imposed oppression without ever even putting up a fight. The unnerving part is that he was probably right. With almost everything we Americans receive in this country - politics, news, education, religion - coming in the form of entertainment, the collective mind slowly withers from one that once knew what it needed to one that now only knows what it wants. Normally we here at Schmoozing tend not to buy into the apocalyptic visions of paranoid retro-1950s traditional values monsters, crazed environmentalists, "prophets" of the second coming, A.C.L.U. first amendment zealots who fear the Orwellian nightmare, vote seekers, or anyone else who believes that if we don't listen to them (which is usually their first objective anyway), the world will cease to exist. But Huxley's vision is a different story primarily because of the wealth of evidence that suggests it's actually taking place. What to do about it? Well, the scariest part of Huxley's foreseen regression is that their aren't any solutions - or any that we'd be willing to try. But Schmoozing is a progressive column and we like to offer one suggestion - laugh.

Satire has an enviable place in the realm of social commentary. At its best it combines sound cynicism and wit with mild entertainment, the former being of primary importance. It doesn't parody what's right, but rather what's wrong. In doing so it can fight what Huxley feared while providing what he knew we loved. Consequently, it can be our most effective weapon.

While we can't seem to help but laugh at that which is entertaining, perhaps we should also start to laugh at that which is pathetic and sad. Let's laugh at Jim Carrey, but let's also laugh at Pat Buchanan. Imagine how much attention "The Noid" would get if the workers at the GM plant in Detroit burst their gut laughing after he hurled out his "no more American jobs for Jose" platform. We'd be booking Pat as an exceptionally average comedian on "Two Drink Minimum" rather than having him separate the retarded from the realists at the Republican convention. Or laugh at the whole controversy surrounding Robert Mapplethorpe. Here's a guy who took an N.E.A. grant to deck himself out in leather, bend over, and keep a straight face while simultaneously ramming a bullwhip up his ass to the delight of tax-paying onlookers. This shouldn't be controversial! Kudos to the camera man! This is the funniest goddamn thing we've ever seen. Laugh at Hollywood, which mostly makes movies like *Days Of Thunder* and *Down Periscope* and music like Def Leppard and Debbie Gibson then sees it fit to relentlessly reward themselves at The Academy, Golden Globe, People's Choice, Blockbuster Entertainment, MTV Movie, MTV Music, Grammy, Billboard Music, American Music, Cable Ace, and Emmy Awards (and we're sure we've forgotten a bunch). It's no wonder disease runs so rampant in Southern California with everybody stroking each other off so much. Get over yourself, folks. You made a movie about a pig that talks - let's not get carried away. If life imitates some of your "art" then we're in a deeper hole than we thought. Laugh at the California legal system and the Menendez brothers, who will soon understand how their parents felt when they were forced to their knees and repeatedly plugged from behind by a big gun. After a couple lonely nights with some of the elder hard-timers their previously alleged sexual abuse will seem as tame as Grandma Moses on Prozac. Laugh at a group like N.A.M.B.L.A., who uses the legitimate concept of individual rights so loosely that it's supposed to include the right to fondle pre-pubescent boys. Seeing grown men proudly profess their pedophilia as a "lifestyle choice" is such a egregious display of aberrant humanity that laughter seems the only logical response. Just make sure that between chuckles you say, "Hey, Mr. Jackson, pull up your pants. This isn't Ancient Greece." Laugh at a society so enamored with technology that it will create an entire industry of gadgets that do exactly what sit-ups do. Laugh at the family who gets its news from Hard Copy, then snuggles up with Wrestlemania. Laugh at people who send their hard-earned money to T.V. miniseries. Laugh at the people who find "Amazing Discoveries" amazing. Laugh at Republicans who want to repeal the ban on assault weapons, then laugh at the Democrats who think that the law actually does something. And most of all, laugh at yourself. We all take ourselves too seriously - especially at this age.

As we all depart from the idealistic isolation of college, we must concede that changing popular opinion only happens over time. Meanwhile, let's revel in the merry misfortune of man. For as we slip into Huxley's *Brave New World*, progress becomes increasingly difficult as opinions and emotions merge to form unenlightened thoughts. These change from day to day. Without enlightened opinion, whether it be from the left or right, we get what we have right now and

will continue to have: someone or something is up or down, in or out, hot or not. Opinions don't reflect defendable facts, but temporary emotions, which reflect the last thing you've read or (more likely) saw on television. And while all this is taking place, smitten citizens of the Brave New World will sit on the couch with their remote controls, electric foot massagers, and hard-ons. We, however, will not stand idly. The satiric laugh is a powerful weapon, for it places more importance on the pathetic and sad than the amusing and entertaining. Without speaking a word it says, "You're so pitiable I can't dignify your actions with any other response than to laugh in your face." It is more effective, more appropriate, and just plain fun. If we shift our focus the Brave New World just may turn out to be a hilarious life. In the words of former idealist turned humanity-hater George Carlin, who does more than his share of laughing, "If you think there's a solution you're part of the problem." Amen, brother.

Jay Jaroch and Matt Malone

Earth House Column

Clothes should be bleached white, walls should be painted white, and paper should be white too. This is what we're all used to seeing. The time to change part of this is upon us. Look at your student directory or take a closer look at the Contact next time. Have you noticed that these aren't quite white? On this campus we are soon turning gray. No, I'm not referring to the weather. This paper has been called natural white, gray, and eye-eze, but no matter what we call it, there are significant benefits to this paper. It is unbleached, 100% recycled, has 50% post-consumer recycled content, easier on your eyes, and CHEAPER!!!! So, in summary, Springhill Incentive 100 DP® is better for you, the environment, and your wallet.

Here are the benefits of our new paper:

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- Reflects less light as glare, easing eye strain.
- Cheaper, Incentive 100® is less expensive than the bleached white paper we have been using.
- Higher opacity, which means it does not show through when copied double-sided.
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For a school that touts itself as an "environmental model" this is the only logical choice that is both environmentally responsible and cost effective. So, next time you're in the Print Shop, ask for unbleached, recycled paper. Remember, once we've depleted our stock of white paper, unbleached, recycled paper will be the norm. The only obstacle we face is that we are used to looking at glaring white paper. Please, as we shift to the environmentally responsible alternative, keep an open mind as to its benefits and realize that each time you use it rather than white paper, you are contributing to the health of our planet. You have helped protect trees, kept cancer causing chemicals out of our air and water, and contributed to helping establish a growing and vital new market. Purchasing and using recycled products close the loop of recycling. Reuse. Recycle. Purchase recycled products.

Craig McClure

Feminist Majority speaks out against Voice ad

Contrary to what the article "Voice ad causes controversy" (March 5 issue) implied, the February 28 Feminist Majority meeting was NOT held to discuss the issue of free speech, nor the reasons the anti-abortion, anti-choice insert was run in the February 27 *College Voice*. The issues of the Feminist Majority are those of gender equality and lack thereof, and we came together to air our feelings and reactions to the advertisement itself. The *Voice* is not the enemy; our concern is that the insert was written by an organization that strongly believes in the message its propaganda proclaims. In picking our battles, we have chosen to fight the one that has implications far more frightening than the dwindling size of the *Voice's* bank account.

As a feminist who believes adamantly in the right to choose, I was predictably outraged by pro-life insert. I understand completely the issue of free speech and the precedent that would have been set had the *Voice* refused to run the anti-choice propaganda. I would be very disturbed if I thought the progressive voices on this campus could be silenced as easily, simply because the *College Voice* executive board disagreed with them. I would, however, like to address the claim made by the previously mentioned front page article that "a number of Pro-Choice advocacy groups" were contacted and invited to run an opposing ad. The organizations contacted were *not* advocacy groups; one was a group that was "neutral" on the abortion issue, and the others were two different branches of Parent Parenthood, which is pro-choice by ideology but is not an activist group. It is neither the purpose of, nor possible for these organizations to pay large amounts of money to spread propaganda on college campuses. It is unfortunate that the ideal group to deal with this issue, the National Abortion Rights Advocacy League (NARAL), was not contacted. But abortion issue activist groups are not a specialty of Jesse Roberts', and I do appreciate his efforts.

However, I was appalled that such an extensive argument for the repression of a fundamental right had been presented without a mention of the views of the other side. While I give the average Connecticut College student enough credit to be able to form his or her own opinion and not be swayed by a single piece of propaganda, that a college paper should address such an incredibly controversial issue from only one side disturbs me. Regardless, I understand the issues the paper was facing, and why the board made the decision it did. But I do not believe that all members of the *Voice* are as sensitive to the gravity of the issue as they professed to be. I would like to address a comment made to the Feminist Majority regarding the *Voice's* attempt to contact a pro-choice group to obtain an opposing view. "If Mastercard places an ad for next week, we don't call Visa to let them know."

OPINIONS/EDITORIALS

Implying that a Mastercard ad parallels the effects and import of a 12-page, full-color anti-choice piece of propaganda trivializes a serious and explosive issue, and I find it very offensive. I do not recall ever having seen a credit card company advertisement advocate the oppression of women by denying them the right to control their own bodies, nor one that encouraged the endangerment of their lives by attempting to rescind the right to a safe and legal abortion.

Use the insert as a reminder. Our rights were not *given* to us; they were gained only through the efforts of feminists and other activists after years of struggle. Unless we continue to defend them, they will never be secure. "She's a child, not a choice" was unpleasant but effective in reminding us that there is a very well organized, very well funded Conservative movement that is constantly working to deny us that which is fundamental. Roe v. Wade is not set in stone, and the Right Wing is steadily chipping away at it. Legislation limiting abortion access has already been passed; in many states, parental consent laws are in place. A bill denying the women on Medicaid access to an abortion in cases of rape and incest is on its way to becoming law, and on military bases it is impossible for any women to get an abortion, *even in order to save her life*. And if the Right has its way, this is only the beginning.

Complacency is dangerous. Be informed, be active, and defend your rights. Because if you don't, you will lose them.

Kate MacLaughlin '97

President, Connecticut College Feminist Majority

Voice ad causes a stir

I was surprised to see the headline "Voice ad causes controversy" on the front page of the March 5 edition. Did you believe that distributing a pro-life advertisement to every doorstep on an overwhelmingly pro-choice campus wouldn't cause a stir?

Aside from that, I began to wonder whether Citizen Kane had taken over as editor of the *Voice*. Printing a controversial ad and then reporting on the controversy it caused amounts to creating news. Your job is to report the news, not make it.

Chris Colvin '96

The Communist connection

Having now been attending Connecticut College for nearly two terms, I have observed that communism and communistic ideas seem to considerably inform the public intellectual atmosphere which surrounds student affairs. To name a few examples, a recent Earth House column in the campus newspaper referenced the Worker's World, last year a student produced publication called 'biophilla' carried outright communistic and socialistic appeals, and that same academic term the campus newspaper ran a front-page headline outlining 'the negativity of capitalism' when covering the visit of a self-proclaimed socialist speaker. Considering the sway that communism has on campus, it is worthwhile to analyze the history of communism in the United States to place this phenomena in perspective.

The organized communist movement in the United States began in 1919, with the formation of nationally organized communist factions. Inspired by the 1917 Russian revolution, radicals formed the Communist Party of the United States of America (CPUSA) and the rival Communist Labor Party (CLP). Both organizations went underground early in their careers in emulation of the communist movement in Russia. Most of the early members of these two parties were immigrants from tsarist Russia, and it was not until the 1930s that most of the membership of these parties were English speakers and native born Americans. The parties, as could be expected, were not political parties in the conventional sense of the word, as they both proclaimed their intent to overthrow the entire political and civil system of the United States and replace it with a communist regime, and believed that violence was the only possible way to effect this change. This early revolutionary period was short lived, as events in Europe showed that the worldwide spread of communism was not imminent.

The CPUSA and CLP soon came under the guidance and increasing control of the Comintern, which was formed to direct communist movements around the world to bring about world revolution, and which was dominated by the Soviet Union. The Comintern merged the CLP and the CPUSA in 1921, and ordered the fused party (called the CPUSA) to cease functioning underground and enter the public sphere. Due to factional splits, the CPUSA had little impact in the 1920s, and the Comintern was frequently forced to act as an arbiter of these clashes. The Soviet government was able to intimately manipulate the ideological development of the CPUSA by settling these arguments through the Comintern. By 1929, Soviet control over the CPUSA was so strong that party leaders Lovestone and Gitlow were expelled by Stalin for refusing to follow orders.

The removal of Lovestone and Gitlow ended the factional rivalries within the CPUSA, and the onset of the Great Depression gave the party a new opportunity to achieve their goal of establishing a communist regime in the United States. In the early 1930s, the CPUSA led strikes and demonstrations, and organized a national protest against the rising unemployment rate. The party also attached themselves to other causes which were actually subordinate to their political goals in order to attract the support of idealists who were not necessarily communists. Although their activities were more public than ever before, the CPUSA was still a fringe group with relatively little influence or support, primarily because of the popularity of president Roosevelt's policies. Because of this, and because the Soviet Union supported the statement, the party publicly called the New Deal American fascism.

Developments leading to World War Two, especially the growing power of the Nazi regime in Germany, altered Soviet policy. Because

the CPUSA was primarily under the domination of the Soviets, this caused massive ideological changes within the American communist movement. During this period, the CPUSA began to try to attract the support of socialists and non-radical liberals, whom they had previously denounced, to attempt to staunch the spread of fascism. The CPUSA actually sent several thousand of their members to fight Fascist insurgents in the Spanish civil war, militarily supporting the Soviet world-wide anti-Fascist policy with brute force. This move was completely organized by the Soviet Union, and by this time the CPUSA had no independent organizational existence and can be considered an arm of the Soviet Government.

Supported by a much larger group who were attracted to the party by its anti-fascism and sudden support for Roosevelt (which reversed the previous party position against Roosevelt's New Deal), the CPUSA began to wield political power. Of course, the party's involvement with socialist and non radical liberals and the party's original repudiation and subsequent acceptance of presidential policy were all dictated by the Russian Soviet government, to further Soviet goals. In New York the CPUSA gained control of the American Labor Party, which had influence upon both the Republican and Democratic parties, and in Minnesota they took control of the Farmer Labor Party, which dominated Minnesota politics. CPUSA control of the Farmer Labor Party paid off hugely in 1944, when the Democratic Party and the Farmer Labor Party merged, giving the CPUSA a major voice in the Democratic Party. In addition, the CPUSA gained control over the Washington Commonwealth Federation, which had a large influence upon how the New Deal was executed. By 1939, the CPUSA had nearly 100,000 members, and had become a political force to be reckoned with, solely due to the guidance and control of the Soviet government.

However, when Stalin sought an agreement with Hitler through the Nazi-Soviet pact, which assured Soviet neutrality in return for territory, the CPUSA was commanded to change their tune yet again. The new concord the Soviets struck with the Nazi regime meant that the anti-Fascist policy of the CPUSA was anathema, and therefore had to change. The Soviets forced the CPUSA to abandon its support for anti-fascism, and to again attack Roosevelt's policies and criticize his support for European democracies. This change collapsed the popular support of the CPUSA, and forced the party to scrap many of its front organizations (such as the League of American Writers and the American League for Peace and Democracy). As thousands left the CPUSA, the political clout the CPUSA formerly held evaporated. These new policy positions were disastrous for the CPUSA, but the organization was not in control of its own affairs and was not capable of operating in its own self interest, since every move it made was controlled by and was in the interest of the Soviet Union.

When Russia was invaded by Hitler in 1941, the CPUSA again was ordered to stop their stance against American intervention in Europe, and to support American involvement in the war. The CPUSA's support of Roosevelt's war policies, and their call for a quick American intervention in the war were so strongly stated that the party publicly called any attempt to keep America out of the war treasonous. These new policies, which again represented a complete reversal of previous positions, allowed the CPUSA to rebuild many of the relationships which were severed during the concord between the Soviet Union and Germany, and again were orchestrated by the Soviet Union for Soviet interests.

Although the wartime American-Soviet allegiance made many members of the CPUSA hopeful about achieving their goals (at one point the party renamed themselves the Communist Political Association and tried to become the left wing of the Democratic party), the developing cold war dashed their hopes of overthrowing the American political and civil system. After the defeat of Henry Wallace (who was strongly supported by the CPUSA) by Harry Truman (who was seen as a threat by the Soviet Union, who directed the CPUSA to support Wallace), pro-Truman forces in labor drove the CPUSA out of the unions, destroying the party's main source of power. As the cold war developed, the CPUSA was recognized as an ally of the Soviet Union, and by 1950 the party had lost virtually all of whatever political influence it had left. After the death of Stalin, the hideous mass-murders which accompanied his regime were revealed to the world, driving thousands more away from the CPUSA until the party consisted of only 3000 members. The organization limped on until 1989, when Gorbachev cut off Soviet support for the CPUSA after the party criticized Gorbachev's reform policies, effectively destroying the organization. About half of the remaining members departed, leaving the party a husk of its former self. Without Soviet ideological and economic support, the CPUSA was incapable of functioning politically, and in 1994 consisted of approximately 1000 veteran members from the organization's heyday, exercising practically no political influence.

Knowing this, we can state with knowledge and evidence that there has never been an organized national indigenous American communist movement. Early in the CPUSA's history, its members were mostly immigrants who tried to emulate the Russian Revolution of 1917. Following this, the party became completely dominated by the Soviet Union, and when that nation dissolved, the CPUSA was effectively destroyed. At no point in its history did the CPUSA operate without being influenced by the Soviet Union, and for most of its history was utterly dominated by it, as can be seen by the frequent 180 degree reversal of CPUSA policy for the sake of Soviet interests.

Taking this into account, it can be seen that, like those thousand left-over CPUSA members who long for their past success, the ideological insincerity, corrupt ideals, and vile methods of American communism are still rattling around after the fact, and are voiced by many people on this campus with no relevance to the fact that their sentiments never had any meaning on their own merit, and that even the ulterior motive which served to shield the emptiness of those sentiments has vanished. The current influence which communist and communistic ideas has upon this campus is merely a shallow rehash of communist sound-bites with absolutely no real understanding of the history of the CPUSA, and the people who are actually expressing communist sympathies and making communist appeals are simply reflecting a desire to be obnoxious, which they are well aware that they are. Desiring to express their hatred and alienation, they have not really based their actions, statements and writings upon sincere beliefs, but actually are using the ideological trappings of communism as a prop to help them to revel in how deranged they are. Therefore, the 'influence' of communism on our campus is not the result of a reasoned thought process, but is merely an involuntary

reflex action, involving nothing even approaching thought. The fact that some people who react to the regular spouting of this trash take such clamors seriously and place them on the level of reasoned thought shows that many people seem to refuse to see beyond surface appearances, and actually try to avoid exercising their mental faculties. If people here want to express their affinity for communism, they have a right to do so. However, it must be realized that they probably only believe that they believe what they are saying, and are really frauds.

Rudolf B. Radna '98

Voice article slants primary results

The February 27 edition of *The College Voice* contained two articles which were offensive to many Conservatives and Republicans. The first was an analysis of the New Hampshire Primary by Editor in Chief Michelle Ronayne and Assistant Editor in Chief Jenny Barron. The second was an editorial by Jay Jaroch and Matt Malone.

In the article on the New Hampshire Primary, two fallacious assertions were made. The first was that "many mainstream conservatives view him [Buchanan] as representing the extreme views of the party." The Republican party, like the Democratic party, is made up of many wings, interest groups, and think-tanks. Pat Buchanan's support comes from social conservatives and populists. He is also supported by elements not affiliated with the GOP such as nativists and Perot supporters. The majority of Republicans support the free market and disavow isolationism. In fact Buchanan's economic principles are closer to those of Perot and of Secretary of the Treasury Robert Reich. Pat Buchanan has called himself the Huey Long of the 90s. He is far from part of the Republican philosophy.

The other incorrect assessment was that Pat Buchanan is dependent on the Christian Coalition. The Christian Coalition has not picked a candidate. Were it to do so, Pat Buchanan would not be the candidate. For the past six years Ralph Reed, its executive director has led the Christian Coalition into the mainstream of the GOP. The propensity of Christian conservatives to vote for Buchanan has occurred despite the efforts of the Christian Coalition, because Pat Buchanan is the only surviving candidate to forcefully present socially conservative views.

As for the editorial written by Jay Jaroch and Matt Malone, I was at first left without words. The article opened up with an attack on Abraham Lincoln, the first Republican President. His ability to make money was either maligned with leftist anti-capitalism or in comparison to the truly shady dealings of the Clintons. The editorial then continues in a diatribe against the South. I'm a New Yorker, born and bred, but am infuriated by this nonsense as should every American. Satire is one thing, good journalism is another, good literature is still different. This diatribe was none of the above. It was juvenile misguided bigotry.

Thus having proven their credentials, these two upstanding individuals deal with the New Hampshire Primary. The assertion is made that Buchanan won because of "bible-beaters." Actually this analysis is faulty. The percentage of Christian Conservatives is in fact larger in Iowa, where Bob Dole won. Buchanan won New Hampshire because he reached out to those displaced in a quickly changing economy. Buchanan lost the South Carolina primary by a wide margin because his leftist message is less relevant there.

The only true response to Buchanan is a rational one. Buchanan is a bigot and a populist. To defeat him those on the left and right should take him on in issues and reach out to the confused and increasingly angry electorate. We cannot afford to widen social discontent with articles like that of Jaroch and Malone. Of course, there is the possibility that the left of center media is trying to split the Republican coalition in the hope of another four years of decay under Clinton.

Ron Lewenberg '99

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A & E

An Evening with the stars:

By Michelle Ronayne
EDITOR IN CHIEF EX OFFICIO

Models showed off the costumes, a performance group named Stomp played out the sound effects and Whoopi Goldberg cracked a few jokes, but it still failed to jazz up the 68th Annual Academy Awards... it just made the show longer.

This year the annual awards show hit a new record as the show finally finished at 12:30 am, just three and half hours after it began. There is little doubt that the performers deserve the awards but the awards show always leave viewers asking the question: What becomes of all that talent when performers walk up to the stage to present an award? Hey, they are just reading and some even seem to have trouble with that.

But at least they look good, or so they think. The women were trying to model themselves after the Hollywood starlets of yesteryear and while some captured the elegant simplicity quite well others took it too far. Winona Ryder should really sue whoever did her hair.

Still, the evening is always an important one for Hollywood dwellers and moviegoers alike, a tribute to those who light up the screen with their magnetic performances. The evening was not a total loss; there were some poignant moments and a few funny ones as well—apparently not all presenters lose their acting skills when they go to give an award. This year as always there were some surprising and some not so surprising winners.

The most heartfelt moment of the evening came in the form of the appearance of Christopher Reeve. He made an appeal to movie makers and Hollywood in general to keep producing films that are high in social values. The audience gave the heroic actor a standing ovation when he arrived on stage.

Lifetime Achievement:

It could be said that in this category, it is the year of the Douglas. Michael Douglas was honored at the Golden Globe

Awards and the Academy honored his father, Kirk Douglas, for his lifetime career in Hollywood. The elder Douglas recently suffered a stroke but despite his ill health was a proud and enthusiastic recipient of the award.

Best Supporting Actress:

While the winner might have been a surprise to the audience, it seems none was caught more off-guard than the winner's father. Mira Sorvino took the Oscar for her performance of a prostitute in Woody Allen's *Mighty Aphrodite*. Sorvino said in receiving the award that when they gave her this award they were honoring her father, who taught her everything she knew. Paul Sorvino, who most recently gave a fantastic performance as Henry Kissinger in *Nixon*, was moved to tears by his daughter's words. So were many easily moved people watching at home (sniff, sniff).

Sorvino would not have been my pick. I would have gone with Kate Winslett from *Sense and Sensibility* or Joan Allen from *Nixon*, a film sorely underrepresented at the Oscars. In my opinion *Nixon* should have gotten a nod in the Best Picture category.

Best Supporting Actor:

Anyone who saw *The Usual Suspects* would have told you that Kevin Spacey was clearly the best choice from this category. This picture was one that kept you not only interested but guessing right up until the final moments and Spacey made his character very believable. It was also surprising to me that *The Usual Suspects* did not receive more attention from the Academy. If you have yet to see it, be sure to rent it.

While Spacey was the clear winner in my mind, I need to point out that Brad Pitt gave a surprisingly well acted performance in *12 Monkeys*. That film showed that he could do more than rip off his shirt and show off his good looks; finally he found a film that showed he could act.

Best Actor:

Nicolas Cage plays a man attempting to drink himself to death in *Las Vegas*. Do we need any other contenders in the category? Cage was a sure thing from the

very beginning but there were some other fantastic nominees as well. Namely, Anthony Hopkins who played the title role in *Nixon*. He portrayed Nixon's two sides very well and while he may not have looked much like the deceased president, he captured many of his mannerisms very well.

Best Actress:

This category was a tough call in my mind, though I was fairly certain that it would go to Susan Sarandon for her portrayal of a nun in *Dead Man Walking*. Sarandon's performance was heartfelt and believable but hers was not the only performance of note.

Had the decision been up to me, Sharon Stone would have won for her outstanding job at holding her own with the likes of Robert DeNiro in *Casino*. It was a dark and violent film but her performance was spectacular. It was a true showcase of her ability and she is another actor often noted for her good looks but not her acting skill. It seems a shame that she is so often underrated; she really has a lot of talent as an actress.

And I would be remiss if I did not mention the performance of Elizabeth Shue in *Leaving Las Vegas*. This is an actress that has gone from films such as *Adventures in Babysitting* and *Cocktail* to giving what I would call the performance of a lifetime as a prostitute desperately seeking love and attention even if that means living with an alcoholic she knows she can never change.

Best Song:

I am sorry but, blech, blahh, and yuck to all the songs nominated in this category. I cannot believe there was nothing worthy of winning. And I actually had to leave the room when Bryan Adams stepped on stage to sing "Have You Ever Really Loved a Woman?" which I personally feel is a song that should be banned from all radio stations.

The winner was the only tolerable song, "Colors of the Wind," from *Pocahontas*. If the song by Brian Adams had won, I would have been forced to remove the radio from my car, as they would have no doubt given it even more airtime.

Best Director:

While it was not a shock that Mel Gibson won for *Braveheart*, he would not have been my choice. As an avid moviegoer, I overlooked even going to see this particular film, a shock as I saw most of the films that received Oscar nominations. *Braveheart* appeared far too violent for my taste. This is why I am somewhat surprised that the Academy would pick the director of such a film. I thought *Braveheart* would undoubtedly take a few awards for art direction, makeup or costuming. It did win the award for makeup but not the other two categories.

While I thought that the award should have gone to Mike Figgis for *Leaving Las Vegas*, I thought they might give it to *Babe's* director, Chris Noonan because that was a feel-good film. While I would have wanted to flee the country if it had won, I thought for consistency's sake they would go with *Babe* for best direction and Best Picture.

Best Picture:

Okay, they did go with consistency and the big winner of the evening was *Braveheart*. I personally think some films were overlooked in this category as I mentioned earlier, particularly *Nixon*. But of those nominated I would have gone with Emma Thompson's adaptation of *Sense and Sensibility*. Thompson did take the oscar for best screenplay adaptation, which she deserved as she added humorous moments to what could have been a very dry adaptation of Austen's novel.

So, while there were some surprises, most of the winners were deserving of their awards. The critics had guessed who most of the winners would be but may have figured that *Apollo 13* would win for best picture. I noted with great interest that in the category of best score, they had divided the category into two sub-sections; best dramatic and best comedic, a division they may want to consider across all the categories. It is, after all, awfully difficult to compare a movie about a little piggy with a movie about men at war.

Muppets Tonight!

By Jesse Roberts
THE COLLEGE VOICE

—Who says that prime-time variety shows are dead? "Muppets Tonight!", ABC's current Friday night prime-time slot, debuted on March 8, bringing Muppet favorites Kermit the Frog, Miss Piggy, Fozzie Bear, and Gonzo back to television to rub elbows with current celebrities Billy Crystal, Michelle Pfeiffer, Garth Brooks, Martin Short, Tom Arnold and more.

—An updated version of the original 1976-81 "The Muppet Show", "Muppets Tonight!" doesn't take place in the well-known Muppet Theater, but instead on the set of a Hollywood-based TV station WMUP. While skits occur on-camera, scenes are also constantly occurring off-camera as well, mimicking the chaos of TV studio production. Shots of audience viewers also pop in from time to time; critics Statler and Waldorf mock the show from lounge chairs at home these days, their nurse propped in the background. All together, a fast-packed variety show

erupts Muppet humor throughout the half-hour show.

The set isn't the only major difference in the show: several changes exist throughout the entire program. New characters dominate the sets, while classic Muppet characters play minor or cameo roles throughout the program. The rationale behind this is that the classic Muppets are movie stars these days, as in the 1992 *Muppet Christmas Carol* or in this year's *Muppet Treasure Island*. The new characters have been added to be the TV stars. An intermingling between the two generations gives the audience both its Muppet nostalgia as well as modern-day Muppets, such as the rastafarian TV host Clifford.

Voices too, have changed a little. Long-time Muppeteer Frank Oz, continues to speak for Miss Piggy and Fozzie Bear, while Steve Whitmire, who shares Jim Henson's soft-spoken Southern sensibility, was crowned the next Kermit after Henson's May 15, 1990 death. The format of the Muppet variety show has changed as well. The current TV show has fewer clever, original skits that gave

the original Muppet show its success, and instead has more skits that parody movies and television shows. Billy Crystal and Miss Piggy perform a *When Harry Met Sally* spoof ("When Harry Met Piggy") Other porcine parodies are promised of both *Baywatch* ("Bay of Pigs Watch") and *Star Trek* ("Deep Dish Nine: The Next Generation of...Pigs in Space!"). Some critics worry the Muppet show may lose its sense of art; settling instead for parody and TV comedy.

These many changes between Muppet shows reflect deeper changes occurring far behind the scenes at Jim Henson Productions. After Henson's death, son Brian Henson took over the reigns of the corporation, and taking the title of his father, CEO of Jim Henson Productions. At the time the company was undergoing several financial troubles, and a pending buyout of Jim Henson Productions by Disney that would have secured these woes began to fall apart soon after Henson's death. Only after a mass licensing of the Muppet characters, making video, record, and merchandising deals, did the corporation begin to find a stable

ground that was finalized with the success of the 1992 *Muppet Christmas Carol*.

Now six years after creator Jim Henson's death, and 20 years after their original appearance, the Muppets are back and better than ever. "Muppets Tonight!" airs Fridays from 8:30-9:00 p.m. on ABC.

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HAPPY APRIL FOOL'S DAY!

Claire Shocks Conn with alleged drug trafficking and money laundering

By Jason Salter
ACTING FEATURES EDITOR

President Gaudiani was forced to step down today under allegations of criminal mischief, drug trafficking and money laundering. Police confiscated several pounds of marijuana, cocaine, and Ritalin from her office and obtained a search warrant for her house.

Other top deans and officials are also under investigation for the alleged drug operations. With the lack of any other faculty to take the position, a man by the name of Joe from the custodial department has now become acting president, dean of students and head of campus safety.

Students watched in horror as President Gaudiani, Dean Ferrari and the entire Fanning office building were escorted into waiting police cars. Drug sniffing dogs and DEA officials searched the premises for other signs of criminal activity but refused to reveal their findings stating only in disbelief that, "this is bad."

Police have been monitoring the alleged drug trafficking activity facilitated by our own Campus Safety for the past few months. Drugs were smuggled

via blue Chevrolets bearing the Connecticut College emblem from North campus to South campus in so called "routine patrols." Head of campus safety Jim Miners was nowhere to be found for comment and is assumed to have fled the country for a small island in the Bahamas taking all of the money from parking tickets with him.

When asked to comment on the current situation and his recent promotion, Joe, the acting chair and head of the college stated simply, "wow, this is a pretty big office."

The office of the controller in Hartford, Connecticut, as well as several Swiss banks have confirmed suspicions that the recent rise in tuition has been directly linked to the drug sales and purchase of a new 90' luxury yacht for president Gaudiani aptly named "The camel."

The Financial Aid office was quick to respond as well, and promised that all students would be receiving full refunds for their tuition checks in the mail in the next few weeks.

The raid on the Fanning Compound, as it is now being called, was conducted after a tip-off from head of dining services Matt Fay. His efforts to black-mail the administration back-

fired as he attempted to pin allegations on them. The Food and Drug Administration was quick to investigate the food services at Connecticut College for serving food "unfit for human consumption."

Students overcome by the loss of their senior officials were easily persuaded when word of the shutdown of all dining halls on campus was announced along with the participation of the generous people at Domino's Pizza who agreed to feed pizza for breakfast, lunch and dinner to the starving and shaken students.

As his first move as acting president, Joe announced that classes were canceled until further notices as all faculty members are under investigation. His promotion to his new position finally gave him an opportunity to activate his long awaited plan of turning Crozier-Williams Student Center into an enormous water park complete with a 60' curling water slide and high dive.

With the blue prints in hand, he quickly secured the funds that hadn't been frozen by federal agents and construction should begin next week.

Federal agents will be completing their work within the next 48-72 hours and normal campus life will resume. Until that time, students are instructed to await the arrival of their tuition refunds and pizza at their doors on April Fools Day.

Top Video Rentals

1. Waterworld starring Kevin Costner (Columbia TriStar Rated: PG-13) Last Week No. 1
2. Under Siege 2: Dark Territory Steven Seagal (Warner R) No. 2
3. Dangerous Minds Michelle Pfeiffer (Buena Vista R) No. 6
4. The Net Sandra Bullock (Columbia TriStar PG-13) No. 5
5. Desperado Antonio Banderas (Columbia TriStar R) No. 4
6. To Wong Foo, Thanks for Everything! Julie Newmar Patrick Swayze (MCA/Universal PG-13) New Entry
7. Something To Talk About Julia Roberts (Warner R) No. 7
8. Showgirls Elizabeth Berkeley (MGM/UA NC-17) No. 9
9. Nine Months Hugh Grant (FoxVideo PG-13) No. 8
10. Hackers Jonny Lee Miller (MGM/UA PG-13) No. 26
11. Clueless Alicia Silverstone (Paramount PG-13) No. 10
11. Jeffrey Steven Weber (Orion R) No. 12
12. Beyond Rangoon Patricia Arquette (Columbia TriStar R) No. 11
13. Virtuosity Denzel Washington (Paramount R) No. 13
14. Copycat Holly Hunter (Warner R) New Entry
15. Jade David Caruso (Paramount R) No. 14
16. Die Hard With A Vengeance Bruce Willis (FoxVideo R) No. 15
16. The Indian in the Cupboard Hal Scardino (Columbia TriStar PG) No. 25
17. First Knight Sean Connery (Columbia TriStar PG-13) No. 17
18. Lord Of Illusions Scott Bakula (MGM/UA R) No. 18
19. The Big Green Steve Guttenberg (Walt Disney/Buena Vista PG) No. 22
20. While You Were Sleeping Sandra Bullock (Buena Vista PG) No. 19

This Week In History

On April 6, 1712, slaves in New York revolted; six committed suicide and 21 were executed ... April 6, 1789, regular sessions of the first U.S. Congress began in Federal Hall in New York City, then the capitol ... April 2, 1792, the Coinage Act established the U.S. Mint in Philadelphia ... April 6, 1830, Joseph Smith organized the Mormon church in Fayette, N.Y. ... April 3, 1860, the first Pony Express began between Sacramento, Calif., and St. Joseph, Mo. ... April 6, 1909, Admiral Robert E. Peary reached the North Pole on his sixth attempt, accompanied by Matthew Henson, a black man, and four Eskimos ... April 1, 1945, U.S. forces invaded Okinawa ... April 1, 1946, 400,000 mine workers went on strike; other industries soon followed ... April 1, 1948, the U.S.S.R. began a land blockade of Berlin's Allied sectors ... April 4, 1968, Martin Luther King, Jr., 39, was assassinated in Memphis, Tenn.; James Earl Ray, an escaped convict, pleaded guilty to the murder ... April 2, 1995, an explosion in a building in the city of Gaza killed eight people, including a leader of the military wing of Hamas, or the Islamic Resistance Movement, which opposed the ongoing peace process between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization ... April 2, 1995, owners of major-league baseball teams accepted the offer by players to take the field and end the baseball strike ... April 3, 1995, the U.S. dollar fell to 85.85 against the Japanese yen during New York trading ... April 4, 1995, Francisco Duran, a resident of Colorado Springs, Colo., was convicted in federal court in Washington, D.C., of attempting to assassinate President Bill Clinton ... April 5, 1995, by a vote of 246-188, the House of Representatives approved a bill that would cut taxes for individuals and corporations; a \$500-per-child tax credit for families earning less than \$200,000 would cut tax revenues by \$105 billion over five years ... April 5, 1995, Judge Lance Ito dismissed O.J. Simpson trial juror Jeanette Harris after she complained that the jury had broken into factions supporting the defendant's guilt or innocence and that sheriff's deputies assigned to the jurors were fomenting racial discord.

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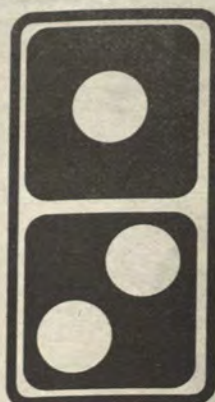
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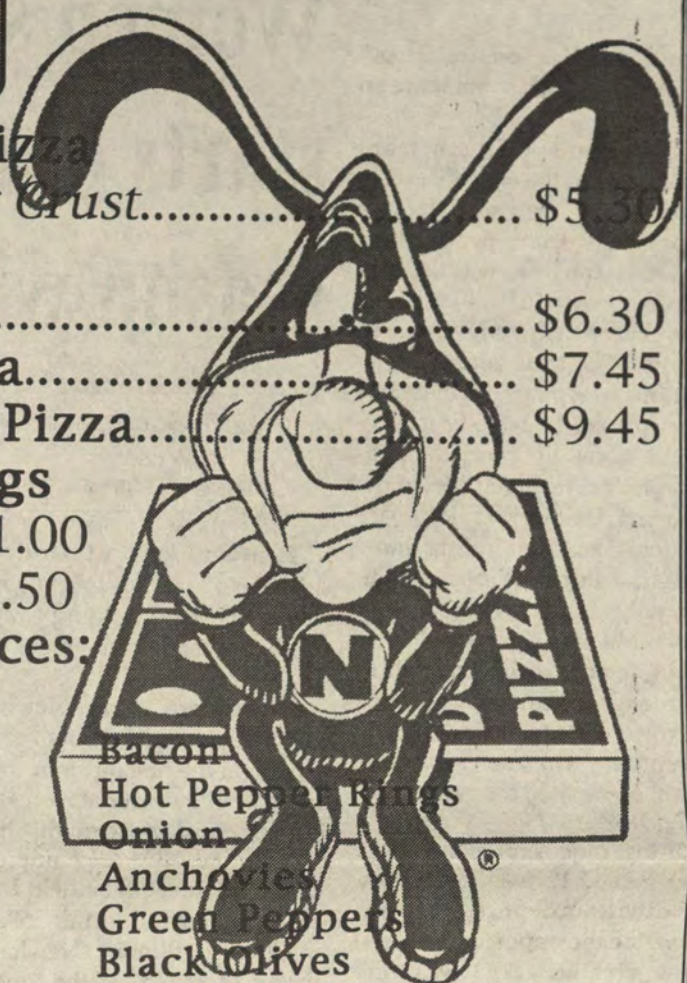
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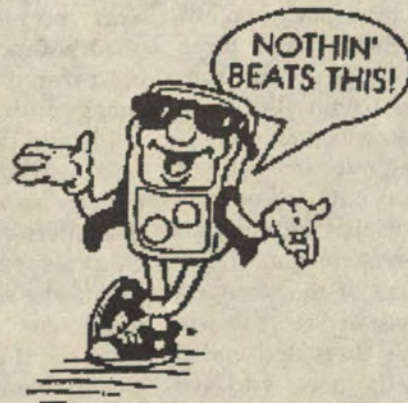
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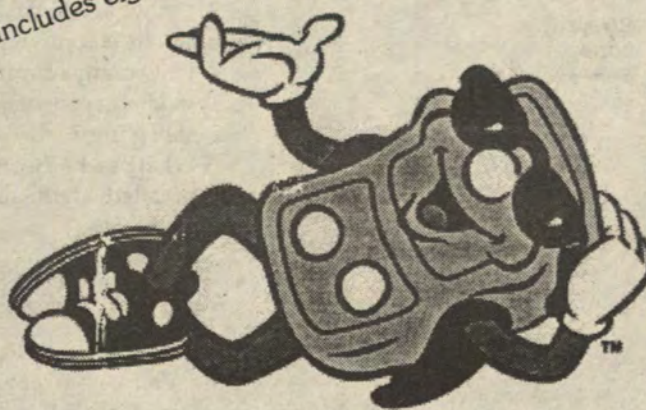
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CAMEL SPORTS

Sports Teams Hit the Road for Break

Jason Salter
ACTING FEATURES EDITOR

"Every year over Spring Break, Connecticut College athletic teams travel to the far reaches of the globe in search of competition, training sites and warmer weather. This year, several teams migrated off campus over the two week break and returned a little tan, a little tired, but with enough momentum to carry them through the season.

Women's Track and Field took two vans on a long trip down to Hilton Head, South Carolina and then on to Atlanta, site of the 1996 Summer Olympics. They practiced for a few days there before continuing on to Atlanta. While in Hilton Head, one highlight of the trip was the surprise appearance of 400 meter world record holder, Butch Reynolds, himself training for the upcoming U.S. time trials. Several of the athletes had an opportunity to talk to him and watch him train.

In their meet at Emory University, the team placed eighth out of 17 other division three teams. The only other team from the Northeast who also made the trip was Amherst.

"Traveling over break gives us an opportunity to compete against teams that we wouldn't normally compete against. For example, one of the strongest teams in division three, Baldwin Wallace was there and ended up winning the meet," said Ned Bishop, head coach of the women's track team.

Another highlight for the team was the qualification of Kerry Newhall for a NCAA in javelin throwing 125' 5".

"All of the other events other than running benefit from the warmer weather. It's great to get away and have a project that everybody works on. It's not all about athletics alone, it's all a very positive experience," added Bishop.

Following them South, but not with the track team, was the Women's Lacrosse team who played several games in Hilton Head, South Carolina over the break.

Head coach Anne Parmenter echoed Bishop's comments of warmer weather and team bonding and added, "we are able to play games that are outside of the eleven regular season games. NESCAC forbids us to play more than that in a season, this way, we get to travel, play different teams and get warmed up for the season."

The men's track team packed their bags for an even warmer climate than the southern United States, Venezuela. Thirty nine track team members as well as tennis players made the trip to Porta la Cruz to combine both work and play. The team supplied the funds for this relatively inexpensive trip because of exchange rates.

"In addition to the excellent training we were able to do, the athletes learned about a different culture at a kind of a socio-cultural sporting event. Some of them, who spoke Spanish were able to converse with the Venezuelans, it was all a very positive experience," said head coach William Wuyke.

"Most of us would have just sat around over break, but this way, the team got to get together and get some good training

done, as well as some relaxing," said Ted Svehlik, sophomore on the team.

The men's lacrosse team rounded out the worldly excursions with a trip to Colorado. With less than predictable weather, the team was lucky to have beautiful 60 degree weather on the days of their three games. The team returned victorious sweeping all of the teams they played. University of Colorado, normally good competition for the team fell 19-2 to the Camels. Colorado College, another team that might have posed a threat by being traditionally ranked in the top teams also collapsed against the traveling teams, 14-10. Their third game against University of Denver was close to begin with, but eventually the men's lacrosse team dominated the game, winning 18-7.

"I lost nine seniors last year, and gained 12 freshman. They give the team depth and this trip gave me the opportunity to test their abilities and I was very impressed. This kind of trip has no girlfriends, no friends around, no classes to worry about. It is the perfect coaching environment to a captive audience for a few weeks before they return to classes. I got a lot accomplished and it was very beneficial for the team as a whole," explained head coach Fran Shields.

In an effort to educate and train their teams, coaches will go to great lengths and distances at Connecticut College. From Colorado to Venezuela, they played, ran, jumped and worked their hearts out, what did you do over break?



Women's track starts outdoor season with success

by Angela Grande and Kate Wilson
THE COLLEGE VOICE

The Connecticut College Women's Track and Field team saw a lot of hard training pay off in their first two meets of the year.

Sophomore Kerry Newhall only needed one throw of the javelin in the first outdoor track meet of the season to break a school record and to qualify herself for the NCAA championship track meet to be held May 22-25 at North Central College in Chicago, Illinois. Newhall's throw of 125' 5" at the Emory University Spring Break Invitational made her the first woman on the team to qualify for nationals in two years. With this record-breaking throw, Newhall has also qualified for the New England and ECAC championship meets.

Newhall is joined by team members who also qualified for championship meets at Emory over spring break or at the Wesleyan Invitational held yesterday. Twelve women qualified for the New England championship meet and five qualified for the ECAC championship meet.

At the Wesleyan Invitational yesterday, Conn finished second out of seven teams, beating rivals such as Coast Guard and Brandeis. Host team Wesleyan finished first at the meet.

In the individual events, first-place winners included sophomore Kate Stellitano who won both the discus and the shot put events. Stellitano now has the third most points scored by a female track and field athlete in Connecticut College history in only her second year of collegiate-level competition.

Stellitano also placed second in the hammer event and fourth in the javelin to finish out a great day. Freshman Raven Hartog won the pole vault competition. Hartog is the first woman from Conn to compete in this event. She established a school record at 8'. Other victories included

Kerry Newhall, who won the javelin event, and junior Sherri Schultz in the 400m race. Senior Meghan Clay finished first in the 5000m event.

Other people who captured places in their events include junior Angela Grande who was second in the 400m hurdles and fourth in the 100m hurdles. Freshman Kristie Alcock and sophomore Nikeya Kelly tied for third in the high jump. Sophomore Latoya Marsh finished second in the 800m. Freshman Liza Richards got fourth in the 5000m race. Cynthia Gordon, also a freshman, finished in fourth place in the triple jump. Freshman Carlene Brown placed fourth in the 100m. Karen Menendez, a senior, got fourth place in the 400m and was sixth in the 200m event. Raven Hartog finished fifth in the 100m hurdles. Freshman Sarah Feinberg, competing in her first meet at Conn, placed fifth in the 100m. Sherri Schultz was fifth in the 400m hurdles. Kerry Newhall got sixth in the discus. Lindy Graham, a sophomore, finished sixth in the triple jump and also was sixth in the long jump.

The relay teams had a good day as well. All three relay teams finished in second place. The 4X100m relay team included Sarah Feinberg, Karen Menendez, Latoya Marsh, and Carlene Brown. Latoya Marsh, Sherri Schultz, Otsile Gaetsaloe, Karen Menendez made up the 4X400m team. The 4X800m team was lead by Laura Willsey, Trina Abraham, Kristie Alcock, and Meghan Clay.

Many athletes had personal records broken in the meet. They included junior Karen Norenberg (3000m), sophomores Keira Hamilton (100m), Otsile Gaetsaloe (400m), Lindy Graham (long jump) and Kerri Newhall (javelin), and freshmen Cynthia Gordon (100m hurdles), Jjais Forde (200m), and Laura Willsey (1500m).

The Conn women will try to top the successes of the first two meets next weekend when they compete at the Tufts Invitational.

New strike zone

Major league umpires have been told to expand the strike zone this season. The new dimensions:

Top of shoulders

Mid-point

Top of pants

Top of knee cap

Hollow beneath kneecap

Batter's box

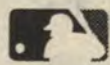
Home plate

Old depth

New depth

Strike zone

Source: Major League Baseball



BATTING

PITCHING

CATCHING

Sports Quiz:

1. Who was the first son in baseball to play for a team managed by his father?
2. On what day of the week is the Super Bowl always played on?
3. On what holiday is the Indianapolis 500 run on?
4. How many umpires handle a regular-season major league baseball game?
5. What baseball team was routinely called "dem bums" by its frustrated fans?

Sports Quiz Answers:

1. Earl Mack, 1910 Philadelphia A's, managed by his father, Connie Mack; 2. Sunday; 3. Memorial Day; 4. four; 5. the Brooklyn Dodgers.